

STATE OF MARYLAND
Maryland Energy Administration

CLASS III SMALL PROCUREMENT (Under \$25,000)

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants Consulting Services

PART I - PURPOSE

The Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) is an agency of the State of Maryland. MEA is authorized by State law to maximize energy efficiency, increase the use of renewable and clean energy sources, and improve the environment.

To maximize the investment opportunities provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), MEA is soliciting technical assistance in creating a “Best Practices” technical resource guide book for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants (EECBG) program and assistance in application review.

MEA is requesting preparation of a resource guide for Maryland’s cities and counties on how best to invest the EECBG funds. The guide should provide a summary of goals and objectives of activities. The guide should list specific programs or activities that will achieve demonstrable results. The program descriptions should identify specific costs, benefits, timetable for major milestones, and procedures to evaluate measure and verify (EM&V) activities.

The Best Practices technical guide book will be available to Maryland’s counties and cities. The cities and counties will utilize the technical resource guide to apply for the EECBG funds.

PART II – GENERAL INFORMATION

A. Incurred Expenses

The State of Maryland will not be responsible for any costs incurred by any Offeror in preparing and submitting a quotation in response to this solicitation.

B. Contractor Responsibilities

The State of Maryland will enter into a contractual agreement with the selected Offeror only. The selected Contractor shall be responsible for all products and services required by this solicitation.

C. General Contract Conditions

Any contract resulting from this solicitation shall include the following contractual terms and conditions as demonstrated in the sample Contract, Attachment A. (See generally, COMAR 21.05.07.06 (F)).

1. Parties to the Contract
2. Scope of the Contract
3. Length of the Contract
4. Compensation and Method of Payment
5. Contract Modification Clause
6. Dispute Clause
7. Maryland Law Prevails Clause
8. Non-Discrimination in Employment Clause
9. Termination for Default Clause
10. Termination for Convenience Clause
11. Delays and Extension of Time Clause

D. Compensation

The Contractor shall submit on a bi-weekly basis, an invoice for the total hours of worked for the period stated in the invoice for all activities performed as outlined in Section IV Scope of Work below. A proper original invoice shall be submitted to the Procurement Officer. Included with the invoice shall be a document detailing description of actual worked performed and the hours associated with the work. The Contractor shall sign a statement on the detail that certifies the information is true and correct. Payments to the Contractor pursuant to any resulting contract shall be made no later than thirty (30) days after the State's receipt of a proper original invoice from the Contractor. Each invoice must reflect the Contractor's Federal Tax Identification Number, or Social Security Number.

E. Protest

The State provides avenues for any vendor to protect against the award or the proposed award of a contract. All protests should be filed in accordance with COMAR Title 21, State Procurement Regulations, Subtitle 10, Administrative and Civil Remedies.

F. Minority Business Enterprise Notice

Minority business enterprises are encouraged to respond to this PUBLISHED SOLICITATION and to obtain certification. Questions relevant to certification should be directed to the Maryland Office of Minority Business Affairs at (410) 767-8232.

A Minority Business Enterprise Subcontracting Goal has not been established for this PUBLISHED SOLICITATION.

G. Compliance with Law/Arrearages

By submitting an offer in response to this solicitation, the Offeror, if selected for award, agrees that it will comply with all federal, state, and local laws, rules, regulations and

ordinances applicable to its activities and obligations under the contract. By submitting an offer in response to this solicitation, the Offeror represents and warrants that it is not in arrears with respect to the payment of monies due and owing the State of Maryland, or any department or unit thereof, including but not limited to, the payment of taxes and employee benefits, and if selected for award, that it shall not become so in arrears during the term of the contract.

H. Acknowledgment of Amendments

Although no amendments to this solicitation are anticipated, this solicitation requires the acknowledgment of the receipt of all amendments, addenda, and changes issues.

PART III – QUALIFICATIONS

The Offeror's assigned personnel must have previous professional experience in the field of energy. The Offeror should:

- Have experience working on best practice guides or similar technical resource guide books;
- Be familiar with program requirements related to Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants through the Department of Energy; and
- Have experience with energy program design.

PART IV - SCOPE OF WORK

- A. At the direction of MEA Staff, the contractor will develop a resource guide for Maryland's cities and counties on how best to invest the EECBG funds. The guide will provide a summary of goals and objectives of activities that correlate with those set by the Department of Energy to fund projects that reduce energy use and fossil fuel emissions and that improve energy efficiency. The guide should list specific programs or activities that will achieve demonstrable results. The program descriptions should identify specific costs, benefits, timetable for major milestones, and procedures to evaluate measure and verify (EM&V) activities.
 - a. The contractor shall collect best practice models that are eligible activities related to EECBG Funds such as:
 - i. Development of an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy and Technical Consultant Services to assist in the development of such a strategy;
 - ii. Residential and Commercial Building Energy Audits;

- iii. Financial Incentive Programs and Mechanisms for energy efficiency improvements such as energy savings performance contracting, on-bill financing, and revolving loan funds;
 - iv. Grants to nonprofit organizations and governmental agencies for the purpose of performing Energy Efficiency Retrofits;
 - v. Energy Efficiency and Conservation Programs for Buildings and Facilities;
 - vi. Development and Implementation of Transportation Programs to conserve energy;
 - vii. Building Codes and Inspections to promote building energy efficiency;
 - viii. Energy Distribution Technologies that significantly increase energy efficiency, including distributed resources, combined heat and power, and district heating and cooling systems.
 - ix. Material Conservation Programs including source reduction, recycling, and recycled content procurement programs that lead to increases in energy efficiency;
 - x. Reduction and Capture of Methane and Greenhouse Gases generated by landfills or similar waste-related sources.
 - xi. Energy efficient Traffic Signals and Street Lighting;
 - xii. Renewable Energy Technologies on Government Buildings; and
 - xiii. Any Other Appropriate Activity that meets the purposes of the program and is approved by DOE.
 - b. The Best Practices technical guide book will be available to Maryland's counties and cities. The cities and counties will utilize the technical resource guide to apply for the EECBG funds.
 - c. MEA desires the Best Practices technical guide book draft by May 20, 2009 and the Final Version by May 29, 2009.
- B. Prior to release of any work product, the Contractor submit completed work to the Administration's designee for review and acceptance or rejection.
 - C. Contractor shall perform all work in a confidential manner and will not discuss any material with persons not under the supervision of MEA.
 - D. Pursuant to State Government Article 15-508, the Contractor shall not be eligible for award of any contracts that result from the drafting of specifications. Contractor shall execute a conflict of interest affidavit (attached) upon award of the contract
 - E. Contractor shall execute a confidentiality agreement (attached) upon award of the contract.

PART V – PROPOSAL FORMAT

All proposals shall be prepared in a straightforward and concise manner, delineating the Offeror's capabilities to satisfy the requirements of the PUBLISHED SOLICITATION and, specifically, the requirements for the tasks listed in Part IV, Scope of Work. **While there are no specific page limitations, please be concise.** Proposals will contain the following information:

A. Letter of Transmittal – A Letter of Transmittal on the Offeror's business stationery will accompany the Technical Proposal. The sole purpose of this letter is to provide a record of transmittal of the proposal in addition to the receipt of all amendments, addenda, and changes issued. The letter should be brief and signed by an individual who is authorized to commit the vendor to the services and requirements stated within the PUBLISHED SOLICITATION.

B. Technical Proposal

1. Title Page -Contact information for the organization and all personnel who will perform the work; phone; fax, email or web addresses, and Federal ID numbers.
2. Demonstration that the Offeror's personnel have the capacity to perform certain tasks listed in the Scope of Work and ability to produce the Best Practices technical guide book by time set in the Scope of Work.

C. Price Proposal – The Offeror shall prepare and sign a price proposal. The price proposal shall be in the form of a single hourly rate which shall apply to all Contractor assigned personnel for the duration of the contract. Financial information submitted shall be irrevocable for a period of ninety (90) days after the due date of the proposal.

PART VI – EVALUATION CRITERIA

A review panel consisting of MEA staff and other representatives will review proposals and may interview Offerors. All proposals that are in compliance with requirements and qualifications will be evaluated based on the following criteria. Technical is more important than price.

1. Offeror's Experience
2. Demonstration of Qualifications
3. Ability to maintain Deliverable Schedule requested in relation to Best Practice Guide
4. Price

If, upon review of the proposals, the review panel has further questions, Offerors may be invited for oral presentations.

PART VII – BASIS OF AWARD

MEA may, at its sole option, enter into discussions with each responsible Offeror and ask the Offerors to submit “best and final offers” before making an award. Thereafter, the award of the contract will be made to the responsible Offeror whose proposal is determined to be most advantageous to the State.

Electronic submissions of the Technical and Price Proposals in a portable document format (PDF, must be compatible with Adobe Acrobat Reader) are due to the attention of Maria Ulrich (mulrich@energy.state.md.us) at the Maryland Energy Administration by May 1, 2009 by 10am. A return e-mail will acknowledge receipt of the proposal.

Maria Ulrich
Maryland Energy Administration
1623 Forest Drive Suite 300
Annapolis, MD 21403

Please address your questions to Maria Ulrich, (410) 260-7655.

ATTACHMENTS

ATTACHMENT A– Is the State’s Contract. It is provided with the RFP for informational purposes and is not required at proposal submission time. However, it must be completed, signed and returned by the selected Offeror to the Procurement Officer expeditiously upon notification of proposed Contract award.

ATTACHMENT B – Bid/Proposal Affidavit. This form must be completed and submitted with the Offeror’s technical proposal.

ATTACHMENT C – Contract Affidavit. It is not required at proposals submission time. It must be submitted by the selected Offeror to the Procurement Officer within 5 working days of notification of proposed award.

ATTACHMENT D – Non-Disclosure Agreement.

ATTACHMENT E – Conflict of Interest Affidavit.

ATTACHMENT A – CONTRACT

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants Consulting Services

**THIS CONTRACT, entered into this _____ day of _____, 2009,
by and between the**

**STATE OF MARYLAND
Maryland Energy Administration
1623 Forest Drive, Suite 300
Annapolis, Maryland 21403**

hereinafter ("Administration")

and

INSERT INFORMATION

hereinafter ("Contractor"):

**WHEREAS, this procurement has been determined to be a small
procurement of \$25,000 or less and issued in accordance with the requirements of
State Procurement Regulations (COMAR 21.05.07 et.seq.); and**

**WHEREAS, the Administration has chosen the Contractor, and the
Contractor has agreed to perform the work herein and be bound by the terms of
this Contract;**

**NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the mutual covenants
herein contained be it agreed by and between the parties hereto as follows:**

ARTICLE I - NATURE OF CONTRACT

**This Contract is for services the value of which is less than \$25,000 and is
generally governed by the Small Procurement Procedures established pursuant to
Title 21 of the Code of Maryland Regulations, particularly COMAR 21.05.07, and
the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.**

ARTICLE II - SCOPE OF WORK

To this end, the Contractor agrees to carry out the work described in Exhibit A, Scope of Work which is attached hereto and is expressly incorporated herein and made a part of this Contract.

ARTICLE III - TERM

The term of this Contract shall be from XXX, through June 30, 2009. No work may be initiated under this Contract until the contractor has been instructed to proceed by the Administration.

ARTICLE IV - PAYMENT

The scope of work set forth above shall be performed during the term of this Contract for a fixed amount not to exceed XXXX Dollars (\$XX). The total price reflects completion of each task specified in the Scope of Work. Each task shall be completed as specified in the Scope of Work. The Contractor shall submit invoices for all costs incurred in accordance with a standard format including but not limited to the Contractor's Federal Tax Identification Number of XXXXXXXXXX, and a Contract Identifying Number set out above. Invoices shall be due and payable within 30 days of receipt by the Administration.

To this end, the Contractor agrees to carry out the work described in its Proposal Responding to the Administration's Request for Proposals, submitted on DATE SUBMITTED, which is attached hereto and is expressly incorporated herein and made a part of this Contract.

To the extent that any terms or conditions contained in the incorporated Proposal from the Contractor conflict with the terms and conditions contained in the Administration's contract form, the terms in the Administration's Contract shall take precedence and be controlling.

ARTICLE V - INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR

The Contractor is not an employee of the Administration but is an independent contractor as that term is normally defined. The Contractor shall be responsible for providing all supplies and materials necessary for performance of all work under the Contract, and for withholding any taxes and social security payments due under the Contract. The Contractor is not an agent of the State of

Maryland or the Administration and cannot commit the State or the Administration to any expenditure of funds or enter into any contractual obligation on behalf of the State.

ARTICLE VI - WARRANTY

The Contractor agrees to prosecute all work under this Contract continuously and diligently, and to meet all milestones contained in the Scope of Work. The Contractor shall be responsible for the supervision and inspection of, and the technical accuracy and coordination of all data and work pursuant to this Contract, and shall produce a product meeting professional standards of quality and methodology.

ARTICLE VII - CHANGES

This Contract may be amended only with the written consent of both parties. Amendments may not change significantly the scope of the Contract (including the Contract price).

ARTICLE VIII - DISPUTES

Disputes arising under this Contract shall be governed by State Finance and Procurement Article, Title 15, Subtitle 2, Part III, Annotated Code of Maryland, and by COMAR 21.10 Administrative and Civil Remedies. Pending resolution of a dispute, the Contractor shall continue to perform this Contract, as directed by the Procurement Officer.

ARTICLE IX - TERMINATION FOR DEFAULT

If the Contractor does not fulfill obligations under this contract or violates any provision of this Contract, the State may terminate the Contract by giving the Contractor written notice of termination. Termination under this paragraph does not relieve the Contractor from liability for any damages caused to the State. Termination hereunder, including the determination of the rights and obligations of the parties, shall be governed by the provisions of COMAR 21.07.01.11B.

ARTICLE X - TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE

The State may terminate this Contract, in whole or in part, without showing cause upon prior written notice to the Contractor specifying the extent and the

effective date of the termination. The State shall pay all reasonable costs associated with this Contract that the Contractor has incurred up to the date of termination and all reasonable costs associated with termination of the Contract. However, the Contractor may not be reimbursed for any anticipatory profits which have not been earned up to the date of termination. Termination hereunder, including the determination of the rights and obligations of the parties, shall be governed by the provisions of COMAR 21.07.01.12A(2).

ARTICLE XI - NONDISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT

The Contractor shall comply with the nondiscrimination provisions of federal and Maryland law.

ARTICLE XII - ANTI-BRIBERY AFFIDAVIT

The Contractor certifies that, to the Contractor's best knowledge, neither the Contractor; nor (if the Contractor is a corporation or partnership) any of its officers, directors, or partners; nor any employee of the Contractor who is directly involved in obtaining contracts with the State or with any county, city, or other subdivision of the State, has been convicted of bribery, attempted bribery, or conspiracy to bribe under the laws of any state or of the United States.

ARTICLE XIII - CORPORATE REGISTRATION

Pursuant to 7-201 et seq of the Corporation and Associations Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, corporations not incorporated in the State shall be registered with the State Department of Assessments and Taxation, 301 W. Preston Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201, before doing any interstate or foreign business in this State. Before doing any intrastate business in this State, a foreign corporation shall qualify with the Department of Assessments and Taxation.

ARTICLE XIV - TERMINATION FOR NON-APPROPRIATION

If funds are not appropriated or otherwise made available to support continuation in any fiscal year succeeding the first fiscal year, this Contract shall be terminated automatically as of the beginning of the fiscal year for which funds are not available. The Contractor may not recover anticipatory profits or costs incurred after termination.

ARTICLE XV - MARYLAND LAW PREVAILS

The law of Maryland shall govern the interpretation and enforcement of this Contract.

ARTICLE XVI - INDEMNIFICATION

The State shall not assume any obligation to indemnify, hold harmless, or pay attorney's fees that may arise from or in any way be associated with the performance or operation of this Contract.

ARTICLE XVII - SPECIFICATIONS

All materials, equipment, supplies or services shall conform to Federal and State laws and regulations and to the specifications contained in solicitation.

ARTICLE XVIII - CONFLICT OR INTEREST LAW

It is unlawful for any State officer, employee, or agent to participate personally in his official capacity through decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, advice, or investigation in any contract or other matter which he, his spouse, parent, minor child, brother, or sister, has a financial interest or to which any firm, corporation, association, or other organization in which he has a financial interest or in which he is serving as an officer, director, trustee, partner, or employee, or any person or organization with whom he is negotiating or has any arrangement concerning prospective employment, is a part, unless such officer, employee, or agent has previously complied with the provisions of State Government Article, Section 15-501 et seq of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

ARTICLE XIX - NON-HIRING OF EMPLOYEES

No employee of the State of Maryland or any department, commission, agency or branch thereof whose duties as such employee include matters relating to or affecting the subject matter of this contract shall, while such employee, become or be an employee of the party or parties hereby contracting with said State of Maryland or any department, agency or branch thereof, (COMAR 21.07.01.05).

ARTICLE XX - ASSIGNMENT

This Contract and the monies which may become due hereunder are not assignable except with the prior written approval of the Maryland Energy Administration's Procurement Officer.

ARTICLE XXI - CONTINGENT FEES

The Contractor warrants that it has not employed or retained any person, partnership, corporation, or other entity, other than a bonafide employee or agent working for the contractor, to solicit or secure this agreement, and that it has not paid or agreed to pay any person, partnership, corporation, or other entity, other than a bonafide employee or agent, any fee or other consideration contingent on the making of this agreement.

ARTICLE XXII - EXTENSION

The parties may extend this contract, under the same terms and conditions, by a mutual agreement in writing.

ARTICLE XXIII - POLITICAL CONTRIBUTION DISCLOSURE

The Contractor shall comply with the provisions of Article 33, Sections 14-101 through 14-104 of the Annotated Code of Maryland, which require that every person that enters into contracts, leases, or other agreements with the State of Maryland, including its agencies, or a political subdivision of the State, during a calendar year under which the person receives in the aggregate \$10,000 or more, shall on or before February 1 of the following year file with the Secretary of State of Maryland certain specified information to include disclosure of political contributions in excess of \$500 to a candidate for elective office in any primary or general election.

ARTICLE XXIV - COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS

The Contractor hereby represents and warrants that:

A. It is qualified to do business in the State of Maryland and that it will take such action as, from time to time hereafter, may be necessary to remain so qualified;

B. It is not in arrears with respect to the payment of any monies due and owing the State of Maryland, or any department or unit thereof, including but not limited to the payment of taxes and employee benefits, and that it shall not become so in arrears during the term of this Contract;

C. It shall comply with all federal, State and local laws, regulations, and ordinances applicable to its activities and obligations under this Contract; and

D. It shall obtain, at its expense, all licenses, permits, insurance, and governmental approvals, if any, necessary to the performance of its obligations under this Contract.

ARTICLE XXV - MERGER

This Contract embodies the whole agreement of the parties. There are not promises, conditions, or obligations referring to the subject matter, other than those contained herein or incorporated herein by reference.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Contract by causing the same to be signed on the day and year first above written.

CONTRACTOR

Witness

By _____ (SEAL)
Name, Title

**STATE OF MARYLAND
MARYLAND ENERGY**

ADMINISTRATION

Witness

By _____ (SEAL)
Malcolm Woolf
Director

THIS SMALL PROCUREMENT CONTRACT FORM (Rev. 3/98) HAS BEEN APPROVED IN ACCORDANCE WITH COMAR 21.03.02.02 BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE OF THE MARYLAND ENERGY ADMINISTRATION. ANY ADDITIONS OR MODIFICATIONS TO, OR DELETIONS FROM, THIS FORM MUST BE APPROVED BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE BEFORE SIGNATURE OR PERFORMANCE OF ANY WORK UNDER THIS CONTRACT. UNAUTHORIZED CHANGES, MODIFICATIONS, OR DELETIONS WILL RENDER THE ADMINISTRATION'S OBLIGATIONS UNDER THIS CONTRACT VOIDABLE AT THE ADMINISTRATION'S ELECTION.

ATTACHMENT B – BID/PROPOSAL AFFIDAVIT

A. AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

I HEREBY AFFIRM THAT:

I am the (title) _____ and the duly authorized representative of (business) _____ and that I possess the legal authority to make this Affidavit on behalf of myself and the business for which I am acting.

B. CERTIFICATION REGARDING COMMERCIAL NONDISCRIMINATION

The undersigned bidder hereby certifies and agrees that the following information is correct: In preparing its bid on this project, the bidder has considered all proposals submitted from qualified, potential subcontractors and suppliers, and has not engaged in "discrimination" as defined in §19-103 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. "Discrimination" means any disadvantage, difference, distinction, or preference in the solicitation, selection, hiring, or commercial treatment of a vendor, subcontractor, or commercial customer on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry, or national origin, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation, or on the basis of disability or any otherwise unlawful use of characteristics regarding the vendor's, supplier's, or commercial customer's employees or owners. "Discrimination" also includes retaliating against any person or other entity for reporting any incident of "discrimination". Without limiting any other provision of the solicitation on this project, it is understood that, if the certification is false, such false certification constitutes grounds for the State to reject the bid submitted by the bidder on this project, and terminate any contract awarded based on the bid. As part of its bid or proposal, the bidder herewith submits a list of all instances within the past 4 years where there has been a final adjudicated determination in a legal or administrative proceeding in the State of Maryland that the bidder discriminated against subcontractors, vendors, suppliers, or commercial customers, and a description of the status or resolution of that determination, including any remedial action taken. Bidder agrees to comply in all respects with the State's Commercial Nondiscrimination Policy as described under Title 19 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

C. AFFIRMATION REGARDING BRIBERY CONVICTIONS

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

Neither I, nor to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the above business (as is defined in Section 16-101(b) of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland), or any of its officers, directors, partners, controlling stockholders, or any of its employees directly involved in the business's contracting activities including obtaining or performing contracts with public bodies has been

convicted of, or has had probation before judgment imposed pursuant to Criminal Procedure Article, §6-220, Annotated Code of Maryland, or has pleaded nolo contendere to a charge of, bribery, attempted bribery, or conspiracy to bribe in violation of Maryland law, or of the law of any other state or federal law, except as follows (indicate the reasons why the affirmation cannot be given and list any conviction, plea, or imposition of probation before judgment with the date, court, official or administrative body, the sentence or disposition, the name(s) of person(s) involved, and their current positions and responsibilities with the business):

D. AFFIRMATION REGARDING OTHER CONVICTIONS

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

Neither I, nor to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the above business, or any of its officers, directors, partners, controlling stockholders, or any of its employees directly involved in the business's contracting activities including obtaining or performing contracts with public bodies, has:

(1) Been convicted under state or federal statute of:

(a) A criminal offense incident to obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public or private contract; or

(b) Fraud, embezzlement, theft, forgery, falsification or destruction of records or receiving stolen property;

(2) Been convicted of any criminal violation of a state or federal antitrust statute;

(3) Been convicted under the provisions of Title 18 of the United States Code for violation of the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization Act, 18 U.S.C. §1961 et seq., or the Mail Fraud Act, 18 U.S.C. §1341 et seq., for acts in connection with the submission of bids or proposals for a public or private contract;

(4) Been convicted of a violation of the State Minority Business Enterprise Law, §14-308 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland;

(5) Been convicted of a violation of §11-205.1 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland;

(6) Been convicted of conspiracy to commit any act or omission that would constitute grounds for conviction or liability under any law or statute described in subsections (1)—(5) above;

(7) Been found civilly liable under a state or federal antitrust statute for acts or omissions in connection with the submission of bids or proposals for a public or private contract;

(8) Been found in a final adjudicated decision to have violated the Commercial Nondiscrimination Policy under Title 19 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland with regard to a public or private contract; or

(9) Admitted in writing or under oath, during the course of an official investigation or other proceedings, acts or omissions that would constitute grounds for conviction or liability under any law or statute described in §§B and D(1)—(8) above, except as follows (indicate reasons why the affirmations cannot be given, and list any conviction, plea, or imposition of probation before judgment with the date, court, official or administrative body, the sentence or disposition, the name(s) of the person(s) involved and their current positions and responsibilities with the business, and the status of any debarment):

E. AFFIRMATION REGARDING DEBARMENT

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

Neither I, nor to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the above business, or any of its officers, directors, partners, controlling stockholders, or any of its employees directly involved in the business's contracting activities, including obtaining or performing contracts with public bodies, has ever been suspended or debarred (including being issued a limited denial of participation) by any public entity, except as follows (list each debarment or suspension providing the dates of the suspension or debarment, the name of the public entity and the status of the proceedings, the name(s) of the person(s) involved and their current positions and responsibilities with the business, the grounds of the debarment or suspension, and the details of each person's involvement in any activity that formed the grounds of the debarment or suspension).

F. AFFIRMATION REGARDING DEBARMENT OF RELATED ENTITIES

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

(1) The business was not established and it does not operate in a manner designed to evade the application of or defeat the purpose of debarment pursuant to Sections 16-101, et seq., of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland; and

(2) The business is not a successor, assignee, subsidiary, or affiliate of a suspended or debarred business, except as follows (you must indicate the reasons why the affirmations cannot be given without qualification):

G. SUB-CONTRACT AFFIRMATION

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

Neither I, nor to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the above business, has knowingly entered into a contract with a public body under which a person debarred or suspended under Title 16 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland will provide, directly or indirectly, supplies, services, architectural services, construction related services, leases of real property, or construction.

H. AFFIRMATION REGARDING COLLUSION

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

Neither I, nor to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the above business has:

(1) Agreed, conspired, connived, or colluded to produce a deceptive show of competition in the compilation of the accompanying bid or offer that is being submitted;

(2) In any manner, directly or indirectly, entered into any agreement of any kind to fix the bid price or price proposal of the bidder or offeror or of any competitor, or otherwise taken any action in restraint of free competitive bidding in connection with the contract for which the accompanying bid or offer is submitted.

I. FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE AFFIRMATION

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

I am aware of, and the above business will comply with, the provisions of Section 13-221 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, which require that every business that enters into contracts, leases, or other agreements with the State of Maryland or its agencies during a calendar year under which the business is to receive in the aggregate \$100,000 or more shall, within 30 days of the time when the aggregate value of the contracts, leases, or other agreements reaches \$100,000, file with the Secretary of State of Maryland certain specified information to include disclosure of beneficial ownership of the business.

J. POLITICAL CONTRIBUTION DISCLOSURE AFFIRMATION

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

I am aware of, and the above business will comply with, Election Law Article, §§14-101—14-108, Annotated Code of Maryland, which requires that every person that enters into contracts, leases, or other agreements with the State of Maryland, including its agencies or a political subdivision of the State, during a calendar year in which the person receives in the aggregate \$100,000 or more shall file with the State Board of Elections a statement disclosing contributions in excess of \$500 made during the reporting period to a candidate for elective office in any primary or general election.

K. DRUG AND ALCOHOL FREE WORKPLACE

(Applicable to all contracts unless the contract is for a law enforcement agency and the agency head or the agency head's designee has determined that application of COMAR 21.11.08 and this certification would be inappropriate in connection with the law enforcement agency's undercover operations.)

I CERTIFY THAT:

(1) Terms defined in COMAR 21.11.08 shall have the same meanings when used in this certification.

(2) By submission of its bid or offer, the business, if other than an individual, certifies and agrees that, with respect to its employees to be employed under a contract resulting from this solicitation, the business shall:

(a) Maintain a workplace free of drug and alcohol abuse during the term of the contract;

(b) Publish a statement notifying its employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of drugs, and the abuse of drugs or alcohol is prohibited in the business' workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violation of these prohibitions;

- (c) Prohibit its employees from working under the influence of drugs or alcohol;
- (d) Not hire or assign to work on the contract anyone whom the business knows, or in the exercise of due diligence should know, currently abuses drugs or alcohol and is not actively engaged in a bona fide drug or alcohol abuse assistance or rehabilitation program;
- (e) Promptly inform the appropriate law enforcement agency of every drug-related crime that occurs in its workplace if the business has observed the violation or otherwise has reliable information that a violation has occurred;
- (f) Establish drug and alcohol abuse awareness programs to inform its employees about:
 - (i) The dangers of drug and alcohol abuse in the workplace;
 - (ii) The business' policy of maintaining a drug and alcohol free workplace;
 - (iii) Any available drug and alcohol counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs; and
 - (iv) The penalties that may be imposed upon employees who abuse drugs and alcohol in the workplace;
- (g) Provide all employees engaged in the performance of the contract with a copy of the statement required by §K(2)(b), above;
- (h) Notify its employees in the statement required by §K(2)(b), above, that as a condition of continued employment on the contract, the employee shall:
 - (i) Abide by the terms of the statement; and
 - (ii) Notify the employer of any criminal drug or alcohol abuse conviction for an offense occurring in the workplace not later than 5 days after a conviction;
- (i) Notify the procurement officer within 10 days after receiving notice under §K(2)(h)(ii), above, or otherwise receiving actual notice of a conviction;
- (j) Within 30 days after receiving notice under §K(2)(h)(ii), above, or otherwise receiving actual notice of a conviction, impose either of the following sanctions or remedial measures on any employee who is convicted of a drug or alcohol abuse offense occurring in the workplace:
 - (i) Take appropriate personnel action against an employee, up to and including termination; or

(ii) Require an employee to satisfactorily participate in a bona fide drug or alcohol abuse assistance or rehabilitation program; and

(k) Make a good faith effort to maintain a drug and alcohol free workplace through implementation of §K(2)(a)—(j), above.

(3) If the business is an individual, the individual shall certify and agree as set forth in §K(4), below, that the individual shall not engage in the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of drugs or the abuse of drugs or alcohol in the performance of the contract.

(4) I acknowledge and agree that:

(a) The award of the contract is conditional upon compliance with COMAR 21.11.08 and this certification;

(b) The violation of the provisions of COMAR 21.11.08 or this certification shall be cause to suspend payments under, or terminate the contract for default under COMAR 21.07.01.11 or 21.07.03.15, as applicable; and

(c) The violation of the provisions of COMAR 21.11.08 or this certification in connection with the contract may, in the exercise of the discretion of the Board of Public Works, result in suspension and debarment of the business under COMAR 21.08.03.

L. CERTIFICATION OF CORPORATION REGISTRATION AND TAX PAYMENT

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

(1) The business named above is a (domestic ____) (foreign ____) corporation registered in accordance with the Corporations and Associations Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, and that it is in good standing and has filed all of its annual reports, together with filing fees, with the Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation, and that the name and address of its resident agent filed with the State Department of Assessments and Taxation is:

Name: _____

Address: _____.

(If not applicable, so state).

(2) Except as validly contested, the business has paid, or has arranged for payment of, all taxes due the State of Maryland and has filed all required returns and reports with the Comptroller of the Treasury, the State Department of Assessments and Taxation, and the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, as applicable, and will have paid all withholding taxes due the State of Maryland prior to final settlement.

M. CONTINGENT FEES

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

The business has not employed or retained any person, partnership, corporation, or other entity, other than a bona fide employee, bona fide agent, bona fide salesperson, or commercial selling agency working for the business, to solicit or secure the Contract, and that the business has not paid or agreed to pay any person, partnership, corporation, or other entity, other than a bona fide employee, bona fide agent, bona fide salesperson, or commercial selling agency, any fee or any other consideration contingent on the making of the Contract.

N. Repealed.

O. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT this Affidavit is to be furnished to the Procurement Officer and may be distributed to units of: (1) the State of Maryland; (2) counties or other subdivisions of the State of Maryland; (3) other states; and (4) the federal government. I further acknowledge that this Affidavit is subject to applicable laws of the United States and the State of Maryland, both criminal and civil, and that nothing in this Affidavit or any contract resulting from the submission of this bid or proposal shall be construed to supersede, amend, modify or waive, on behalf of the State of Maryland, or any unit of the State of Maryland having jurisdiction, the exercise of any statutory right or remedy conferred by the Constitution and the laws of Maryland with respect to any misrepresentation made or any violation of the obligations, terms and covenants undertaken by the above business with respect to (1) this Affidavit, (2) the contract, and (3) other Affidavits comprising part of the contract.

I DO SOLEMNLY DECLARE AND AFFIRM UNDER THE PENALTIES OF PERJURY THAT THE CONTENTS OF THIS AFFIDAVIT ARE TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION, AND BELIEF.

Date: _____ By: _____ (Authorized Representative and
Affiant)

ATTACHMENT C- CONTRACT AFFIDAVIT

A. AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

I HEREBY AFFIRM THAT:

I am the _____ (Title) and the duly authorized representative of _____ (Company) and that I possess the legal authority to make this Affidavit on behalf of myself and the business for which I am acting.

B. CERTIFICATION OF CORPORATION REGISTRATION AND TAX PAYMENT

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

(1) The business named above is a (domestic____) (foreign____) corporation registered in accordance with the Corporations and Associations Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, and that it is in good standing and has filed all of its annual reports, together with filing fees, with the Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation, and that the name and address of its resident agent filed with the State Department of Assessments and Taxation is:

Name: _____

Address: _____.

(2) Except as validly contested, the business has paid, or has arranged for payment of, all taxes due the State of Maryland and has filed all required returns and reports with the Comptroller of the Treasury, the State Department of Assessments and Taxation, and the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, as applicable, and will have paid all withholding taxes due the State of Maryland prior to final settlement.

C. CERTAIN AFFIRMATIONS VALID

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

To the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, each of the affirmations, certifications, or acknowledgements contained in that certain Bid/Proposal Affidavit dated _____, 200, and executed by me for the purpose of obtaining the contract to which this Exhibit is attached remains true and correct in all respects as if made as of the date of this Contract Affidavit and as if fully set forth herein.

I DO SOLEMNLY DECLARE AND AFFIRM UNDER THE PENALTIES OF PERJURY THAT THE CONTENTS OF THIS AFFIDAVIT ARE TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION, AND BELIEF.

Date:_____ By:_____

(Authorized Representative and Affiant)

ATTACHMENT D - NON-DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT ("Agreement") is made this ____ day of _____, 200__, by and between the State of Maryland (hereinafter referred to as "the State"), acting by and through its Maryland Energy Administration (hereinafter referred to as the "Department"), and _____, a corporation with its principal business offices located at _____ (hereinafter referred to as "Offeror").

RECITALS

WHEREAS, Offeror intends to submit a proposal in response to RFP **Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants Consulting Services** (the "RFP") for the Maryland Energy Administration; and

WHEREAS, in order for the Offeror to submit such a proposal, it will be necessary for the State to provide the Offeror with access to certain confidential information (collectively, the "Confidential Information").

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of being given access to the Confidential Information in connection with the Offeror's proposal to the RFP (hereinafter referred to as the "Proposal"), and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which the parties acknowledge, the parties do hereby agree as follows:

1. Recitals. The Recitals are not merely prefatory but are an integral part hereof.
2. Offeror's qualifications. Offeror represents and warrants that:
 - A. It is qualified to do business in the State and that it will take such actions, from time to time hereafter, as may be necessary to remain so qualified during the period covered by this Agreement;
 - B. It is not in arrears with respect to the payment of any monies due and owing the State, or any department or unit thereof, including but not limited to the payment of taxes and employee benefits, and that it shall not become so in arrears during the period covered by this Agreement;
 - C. It is in compliance with all federal, State and local laws, regulations, and ordinances applicable to its business and it is not aware of any actual or threatened actions, claims, suits, orders, or other matters that would prevent or limit its ability to satisfactorily and fully perform its obligations under this Agreement or under any subsequent agreement that it may enter into with the State in connection with its Proposal; and

- D. It is the correctly named and identified entity that intends to submit the Proposal and it is not controlling, controlled by, or under common control with the entity that intends to submit the Proposal. If the Proposal will be submitted by a joint venture or any other group of separate business entities, each entity comprising such group has been clearly identified in and has executed this Agreement.

3. Term of Agreement. The term of this Agreement shall commence on the date it is fully signed by both parties and shall continue thereafter until the earlier to occur of: (i) three (3) years following the return of the Confidential Information in accordance with Section 6 of this Agreement; (ii) receipt of written notice given by the State to Offeror terminating this Agreement; or (iii) the date upon which the terms of this Agreement are expressly superseded by the confidentiality provisions of any subsequent agreement which the parties may enter into in connection with the Proposal. If all Confidential Information is not returned to the State in accordance with Section 6 of this Agreement, then this Agreement shall continue in full force and effect until such time as all Confidential Information is returned to the State and the State acknowledges its receipt in writing.

4. What constitutes "Confidential Information". Confidential Information means any and all information provided by or made available by the State to Offeror in connection with the Proposal, regardless of the form, format, or media on or in which the Confidential Information is provided and regardless of whether any such Confidential Information is marked as such. Confidential Information includes, by way of example only, information that Offeror views, takes notes from, copies (if the State agrees in writing to permit copying), possesses or is otherwise provided access to and use of by the State for Offeror to prepare and submit its Proposal.

5. Use of Confidential Information. In consideration of the State's allowing Offeror access to the Confidential Information:

A. Offeror hereby agrees to hold the Confidential Information in trust and in strictest confidence, and to take all measures necessary to prevent all or any portion of the Confidential Information from falling into the public domain or into the possession of persons not bound to maintain the confidentiality of the Confidential Information.

B. Offeror shall not, without the State's prior written consent, copy, disclose, publish, release, transfer, disseminate, use, or allow access for any purpose or in any form, any Confidential Information provided by the State except for the sole and exclusive purpose of preparing its Proposal. Offeror shall limit access to Confidential Information to its employees and agents ("Offeror's Personnel") who have a demonstrable need to know such Confidential Information in order to prepare the Proposal and who have agreed in writing to be bound by the disclosure and use limitations pertaining to the Confidential Information. The names of Offeror's Personnel are attached hereto and made a part hereof as Exhibit A. Each individual whose name

appears on Exhibit A shall execute and date Exhibit A next to their name and by doing so agrees to be subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement to the same extent as Offeror. If Offeror intends to disseminate any portion of the Confidential Information to non-employee agents who are assisting in the preparation of the Proposal or who will otherwise have a role in performing any aspect of the Proposal, Offeror shall first obtain the written consent of the State to any such dissemination. The State may grant, deny, or condition any such consent as it may deem appropriate in its sole and absolute subjective discretion.

6. Return of Confidential Information. Offeror shall return all Confidential Information to the Department within five (5) business days of the State's acceptance of Offeror's Proposal. If Offeror does not submit a Proposal, Offeror shall return the Confidential Information to the Department within 30 days of receiving the material. All Confidential Information returned to the State shall be accompanied by the Certification that is attached hereto and made a part hereof as Exhibit B and shall be signed by an officer of Offeror authorized to bind the Offeror.

7. Liability for Confidential Information. Offeror acknowledges that any failure by Offeror or Offeror's Personnel to abide by the terms and conditions of use of the Confidential Information may cause irreparable harm to the State and that monetary damages may be inadequate to compensate the State for such breach. Accordingly, Offeror and each of Offeror's Personnel agree that the State may obtain an injunction to prevent the disclosure, copying or improper use of the Confidential Information. The Offeror and each of Offeror's Personnel consent to personal jurisdiction in the Maryland State Courts. The State's rights and remedies hereunder are cumulative and the State expressly reserves any and all rights, remedies, claims and actions that it may have now or in the future to protect the Confidential Information and/or to seek damages from Offeror and/or each of Offeror's Personnel, as applicable, for a failure to comply with the requirements of this Agreement. In the event the State suffers any losses, damages, liabilities, expenses, or costs (including, by way of example only, attorneys' fees and disbursements) that are attributable, in whole or in part to any failure by Offeror or any of Offeror's Personnel to comply with the requirements of this Agreement, Offeror and such Offeror's Personnel shall hold harmless and indemnify the State from and against any such losses, damages, liabilities, expenses, and/or costs.

8. Unauthorized Use. Offeror shall promptly advise the State in writing if it learns of any unauthorized use, misappropriation, or disclosure of Confidential Information by any of Offeror's Personnel or Offeror's former Personnel. Offeror shall, at Offeror's expense, cooperate with the State in seeking injunctive or other equitable relief against any such person.

9. Governing law. This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Maryland.

10. False and fraudulent statements. Offeror acknowledges that pursuant to Section 11-205.1 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland a person may not willfully make a false or fraudulent statement or representation of a material fact in connection with a procurement contract. Persons making such statements are guilty of a felony and on conviction subject to a fine of not more than \$20,000 and/or imprisonment not exceeding 5 years or both. Offeror further acknowledges that this Agreement is a statement made in connection with a procurement contract.

11. Signing authority for Offeror. The individual signing below on behalf of Offeror warrants and represents that s/he is fully authorized to bind Offeror to the terms and conditions specified in this Agreement. The individual signing below acknowledges that a breach of this warranty and representation may result in personal liability.

12. Other obligations. The parties further agree that, unless otherwise agreed in writing: (a) this Agreement sets forth the entire agreement and understanding between the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof, and none of the terms of this Agreement may be amended or modified except by a written instrument signed by both parties; (b) the State may waive any rights under this Agreement only by written waiver duly signed by the State, and no failure by the State to exercise or delay in exercising a right under this Agreement shall constitute a waiver of such right; (c) the rights and obligations of Offeror may not be assigned or delegated, by operation of law or otherwise, without the prior written consent of the State; (d) the State makes no representations or warranties as to the accuracy or completeness of any Confidential Information; (e) the invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this Agreement shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision of this Agreement; (f) all notices under this Agreement must be in writing and shall be deemed to have been delivered to and received by a party, and will otherwise become effective, on the date of actual delivery thereof (by personal delivery, express delivery service or certified mail) to the Notice Address of such party set forth below; and (g) signatures exchanged by facsimile are effective for all purposes hereunder to the same extent as original signatures.

14. Notices. All notices hereunder shall be in writing and either delivered personally, by express delivery, or sent by certified or registered mail, postage prepaid as follows:

If to the State:
Maryland Energy Administration
1623 Forest Drive, Suite 300
Annapolis, Maryland 21403
Attention: Walt Auburn

If to the Offeror:

—
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have, by their duly authorized representatives, executed this Agreement as of the day and year first above written.

STATE OF MARYLAND

OFFEROR

By: MARYLAND ENERGY

ADMINISTRATION

By: _____

By: _____

Title: _____

Title:

Date: _____

Date:

EXHIBIT A

**LIST OF OFFEROR'S EMPLOYEES AND AGENTS WHO WILL BE GIVEN
ACCESS TO THE CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**

Printed Name and Address of Individual/Agent	Employee (E) or Agent (A)	Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

EXHIBIT B

**CERTIFICATION TO ACCOMPANY RETURN OF CONFIDENTIAL
INFORMATION**

I AFFIRM THAT:

To the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, and upon due inquiry, I hereby certify that: (i) all Confidential Information which is the subject matter of that certain Agreement by and between the State of Maryland and _____ (“Offeror”) dated _____, 200__ (“Agreement”) is attached hereto and is hereby returned to the State in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Agreement; and (ii) I am legally authorized to bind the Offeror to this affirmation.

I DO SOLEMNLY DECLARE AND AFFIRM UNDER THE PENALTIES OF PERJURY THAT THE CONTENTS OF THIS AFFIDAVIT ARE TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION, AND BELIEF, HAVING MADE DUE INQUIRY.

DATE: _____

NAME OF OFFEROR: _____

BY: _____
(Signature)

TITLE: _____
(Authorized Representative and Affiant)

ATTACHMENT E- CONFLICT OF INTEREST AFFIDAVIT/DISCLOSURE
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A. "Conflict of interest" means that because of other activities or relationships with other persons, a person is unable or potentially unable to render impartial assistance or advice to the State, or the person's objectivity in performing the contract work is or might be otherwise impaired, or a person has an unfair competitive advantage.

B. "Person" has the meaning stated in COMAR 21.01.02.01B(64) and includes a bidder, Offeror, Contractor, consultant, or subcontractor or subconsultant at any tier, and also includes an employee or agent of any of them if the employee or agent has or will have the authority to control or supervise all or a portion of the work for which a bid or offer is made.

C. The bidder or Offeror warrants that, except as disclosed in §D, below, there are no relevant facts or circumstances now giving rise or which could, in the future, give rise to a conflict of interest.

D. The following facts or circumstances give rise or could in the future give rise to a conflict of interest (explain in detail—attach additional sheets if necessary):

E. The bidder or Offeror agrees that if an actual or potential conflict of interest arises after the date of this affidavit, the bidder or Offeror shall immediately make a full disclosure in writing to the procurement officer of all relevant facts and circumstances. This disclosure shall include a description of actions which the bidder or Offeror has taken and proposes to take to avoid, mitigate, or neutralize the actual or potential conflict of interest. If the contract has been awarded and performance of the contract has begun, the Contractor shall continue performance until notified by the procurement officer of any contrary action to be taken.

I DO SOLEMNLY DECLARE AND AFFIRM UNDER THE PENALTIES OF PERJURY THAT THE CONTENTS OF THIS AFFIDAVIT ARE TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION, AND BELIEF.

Date:_____By:_____
(Authorized Representative and Affiant)